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INDIANA JONES™
AND THE IRON PHOENIX

CHAPTER TWO

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AHH!
WHAT THE HELL--
DAMN BUSY-BODY.
GRANDMA, THE SECURITY FORCES OWE YOU A PROMOTION...
...IF ONLY COMRADE NADIA KNEW.
(UNH! SAINTS OF OUR FATHERS...)
HMM... CODE BLACK, EH! WONDER IF IT'LL WORK ON AIR TRANSPORT...

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MUCH LATER, CROSSING THE IRISH SEA.

CONSIDERING THE STRENGTH OF ONLY ***ONE PART*** OF THE STONE, THE POWER OF ALL THREE--UNITED--WILL BE OVERWHELMING.

DAMN. THE STONE CAN ALTER ***MATTER***.

IF THOSE ***LEFTOVER NAZIS*** WEREN'T AFTER THE STONE'S ELEMENTS, THEY'D BEST BE LEFT ***HIDDEN. WHO'LL CONTROL THEM?***

THANKS, CAPTAIN.

WHY COULDN'T ***MAGNUS*** HAVE CHOSEN A GREEK ISLE, THE CÔTE D'AZUR, SOMEPLACE ***WARM?***

WHEW. AH, THERE'S INFORMATION CENTRAL.

THE THIRSTY HOG

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...SO AYE SLAPPED 'IM IN THE KADOODLE!
...WELL, THA COLLEEN WUZ A-DANCIN'...
OOH, YE BLITZED ME, FEELTHY BASTID!
BUT YE KIN--
...WE'LL NO HEV--
UHH... EVENING. GOOD EVENING.
AN ALE--AND A MEAT PIE IF YOU HAVE 'EM, PLEASE.
SO, COULD YOU TELL ...ME...
EXCUSE ME, I'D JUST LIKE TO--
HIDEE, STRANGER! FOR A JUICY PINT, AYE'LL BE OVERJOYED TA HEAR YE QUESTIONS!
COSTELLO, SHUT IT!
THANK'EE, SUR! A YANK, ARE YE?
YES, INDIANA JONES, BARNETT COLLEGE, NEW YORK. ALL I--
PETER PAUL COSTELLO OF THIS FAIR EMERALD ISLE! WHAT KIN AYE DO FER YEW?
I NEED DIRECTIONS TO THE COASTAL ABBEY. THE MONASTERY IS--
RIGHT CLOSE NEAR HERE!
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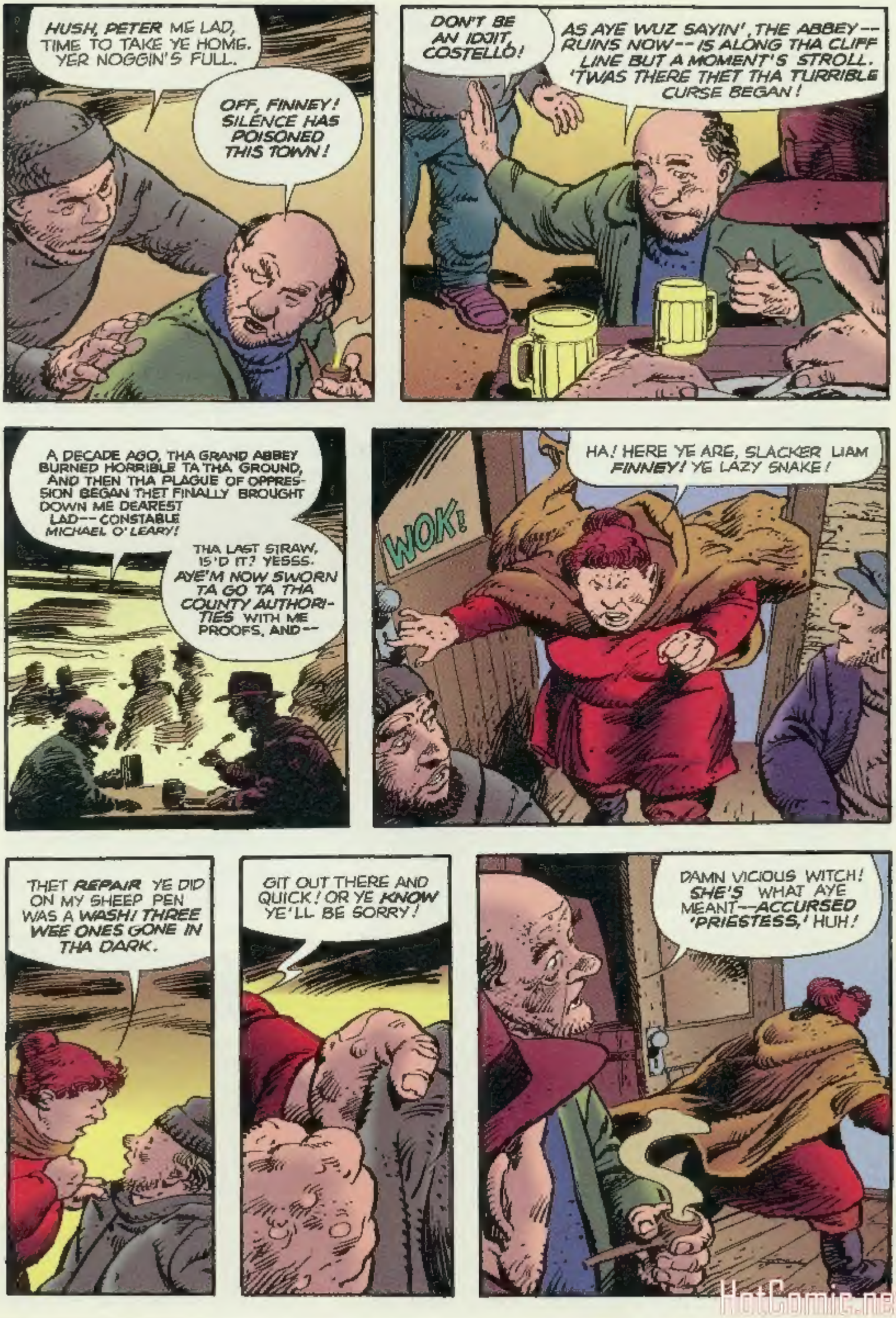
HUSH, PETER ME LAD, TIME TO TAKE YE HOME. YER NOGGIN'S FULL.
OFF, FINNEY! SILENCE HAS POISONED THIS TOWN!
DON'T BE AN IDJIT, COSTELLO!
AS AYE WUZ SAYIN', THE ABBEY-- RUINS NOW-- IS ALONG THA CLIFF LINE BUT A MOMENT'S STROLL. 'TWAS THERE THET THA TURRIBLE CURSE BEGAN!
A DECADE AGO, THA GRAND ABBEY BURNED HORRIBLE TA THA GROUND, AND THEN THA PLAGUE OF OPPRESSION BEGAN THET FINALLY BROUGHT DOWN ME DEAREST LAD-- CONSTABLE MICHAEL O'LEARY!
THA LAST STRAW, IS'D IT? YESSS. AYE'M NOW SWORN TA GO TA THA COUNTY AUTHORITIES WITH ME PROOFS, AND--
WOK!
HA! HERE YE ARE, SLACKER LIAM FINNEY! YE LAZY SNAKE!
THET REPAIR YE DID ON MY SHEEP PEN WAS A WASH! THREE WEE ONES GONE IN THA DARK.
GIT OUT THERE AND QUICK! OR YE KNOW YE'LL BE SORRY!
DAMN VICIOUS WITCH! SHE'S WHAT AYE MEANT--ACCURSED 'PRIESTESS,' HUH!
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"PRIESTESS" COLLETTE GODSEN-- GOT 'EM ALL RUNNIN' SCARED. HEXES AND THET. GOT BLOODY "HELPERS," MEMBERS OF HER BLASTED DRUID CULT.. DOINS UP IN THE HILLS..DEVIL'S DOINS.
HMM. THE ABBEY--
RIGHTO, YANK! TA THE RUINS AYE'LL TAKE YE! THEN AYE'LL DEAL WITH THEM HEATHENS! ON TA DUBLIN!
COSTELLO, DON'T BE DAFT!
YE'RE DIGGIN' YER OWN GRAVE, MAN! LEAVE IT BE!!
COSTELLO MAYBE YOU COULD JUST TELL ME!
NONSENSE! AIR'LL CLEAR ME HEAD!
A WHILE LATER.
HORSES TO LET!
REILLY'S SMITH
ESTABL. 1923
HAH! 'TIS A STALE TALE YE WEAVE, YANK. SCHOLARLY SEARCHES FER "RECORDS" AREN'T CONDUCTED IN THE DARK OF NIGHT.
AYE'LL HELP YE AND THEN YE'LL GIVE ME TRANSPORT DOWN THA COAST WITH PROOF AYE'LL HAVE.
O'LEARY DISAP-PEARED! HAH! ME BEST PAL--DONE IN BY THEM DRUIDS. AYE KNOW. CHECKIN' INTO THEIR DOINS, HE WUZ.
...PALS SINCE WE WUZ WEE TYKES, O'LEARY AND ME. AYE STOOD AT HIS WEDDIN', THA SOD.
KOFF! KOFF!
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DAMN! ALL THE *SIGNS* ARE HERE, BUT NO--

WELL, THEN-- HEY! *LIGHTS IN THA ANCIENT GROVE!*

COSTELLO! NO!

FILTHY BAS-TIDS! AYE'LL SHOW 'EM WHAT FER!

COSTELLO! DAMMIT, *WAIT!*

...TAKE YE ALL ON WITH ME BARE...

UUUFF!

SHUT UP, YOU IDIOT. YOU'LL JUST GET YOUR-SELF--

--CAUGHT.

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O SPIRIT OF THA LAND! BLOOD OF THA TREE...
...BLESS THIS UNWORTHY SACRIFICE!
BLOODY HEATHEN WITCH WAYS! YE KILLED O'LEARY!
HMMUMMUMUM...
COLLETTE! COLLETTE, WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER ALL OUR LIVES...
O' ANCIENT ONES! WE BIND TA THEE AS...
YER DEAR DEAD MOTHER WOULD--
...WE BIND THIS ONE TA THEE!
HHiiSSSS
AAAHH! MOTHER OF GOD!
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AEEN NO! HAIL MARY, MOTHER OF GOD, BLESSED BE...
STOP! THERE'S NO NEED! COSTELLO WON'T--
NOW, BE JOINED TA THA EARTH, FLESH OF THY FLESH.
NO, NO, NO, NO...
AAiiiEEE!!
WUK! WUK! WUK!
HHiiSSS

YOU VICIOUS KILLER! THIS IS NO RELIGIOUS RITE! YOU'VE CORRUPTED THE POWER OF THE STONE, YOU--
AH, STRANGER, YE KNOW OF THA MIGHTY STONE. ANOTHER FOREIGNER COME TA STEAL OUR WONDER. BUT YE HAVE COME TOO CLOSE... AND MUST FOLLOW ME OLD FRIEND--WHO WOULD NEVER BOW TA THE STONE KEEPER!
FLESH TA TREE, TREE, TA EARTH, EARTH TA HOME
YOU DICTATOR!
FOREIGNER? DUNKELVOLK?
HA-HA-HA, WHO HAD THA COURAGE TA SE.ZE THA STONE? TA TURN PAIN, LOSS INTO POWER? AYE WAS THA ONE!
THA STONE KEEPER WILL DEFEND OUR WAYS AGAINST ALL INTRUDERS!
O SPIRIT OF THA LAND!
BLOOD OF THA TREE BLESS...
...THIS UNWO--AAHH!!
THWAK!

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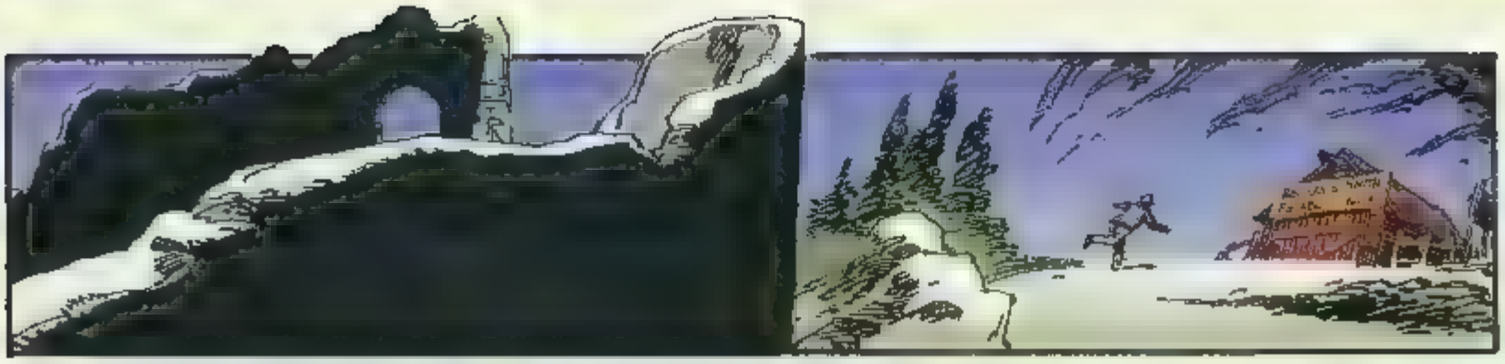
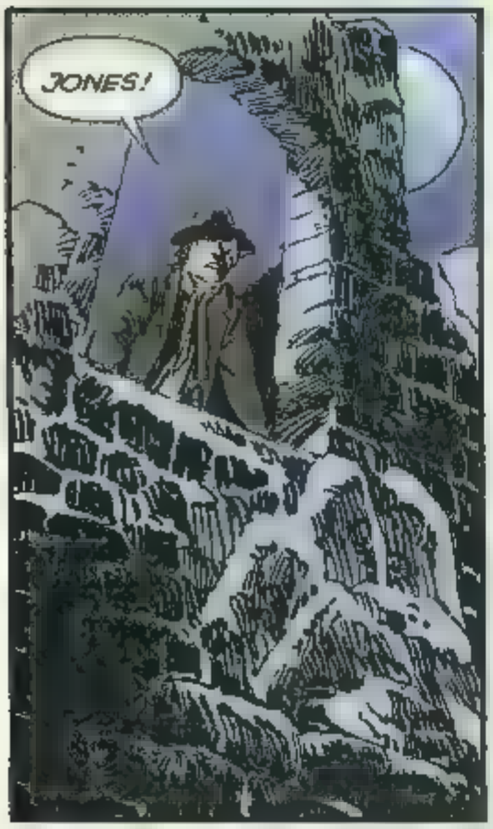
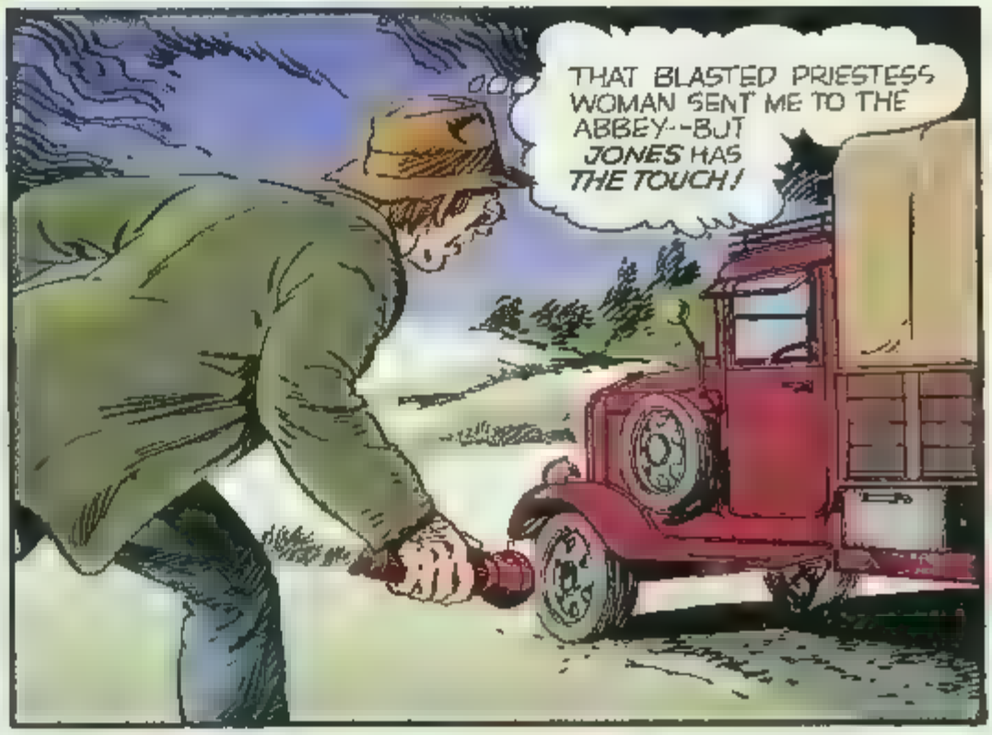
AAEE! NO! IT CAN'T-
WHAP!
FIE! THE BASTIO!
WOP!
BLAMM!
THAK!
GIT 'IM!
SHE'S DAID!
OOWF!
WOP!
THE STONE KEEPER!
HERE! AYE HEAR 'IM!
NAE! THIS WAY!




JONES!


THAT BLASTED PRIESTESS WOMAN SENT ME TO THE ABBEY--BUT JONES HAS THE TOUCH!

BRUUHH

YOUU?!!
WHHAA!!
SSCCREE!

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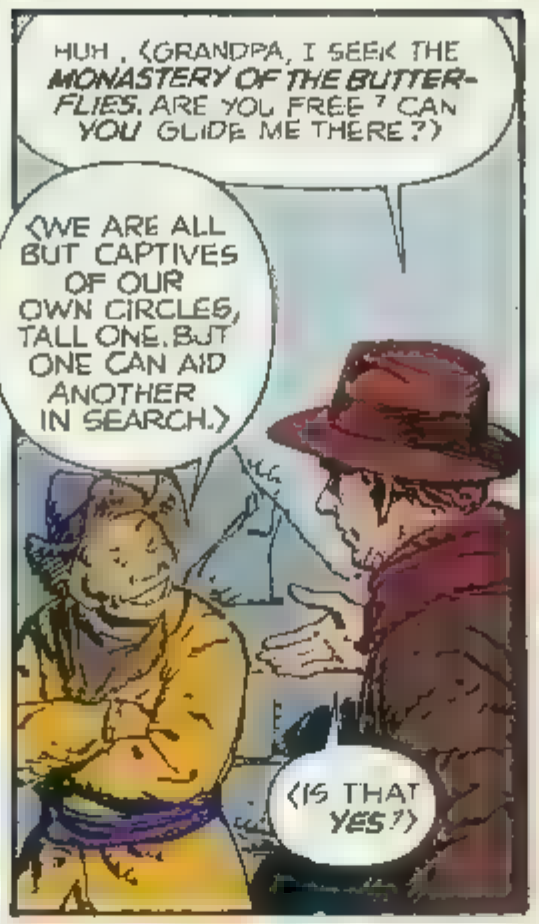
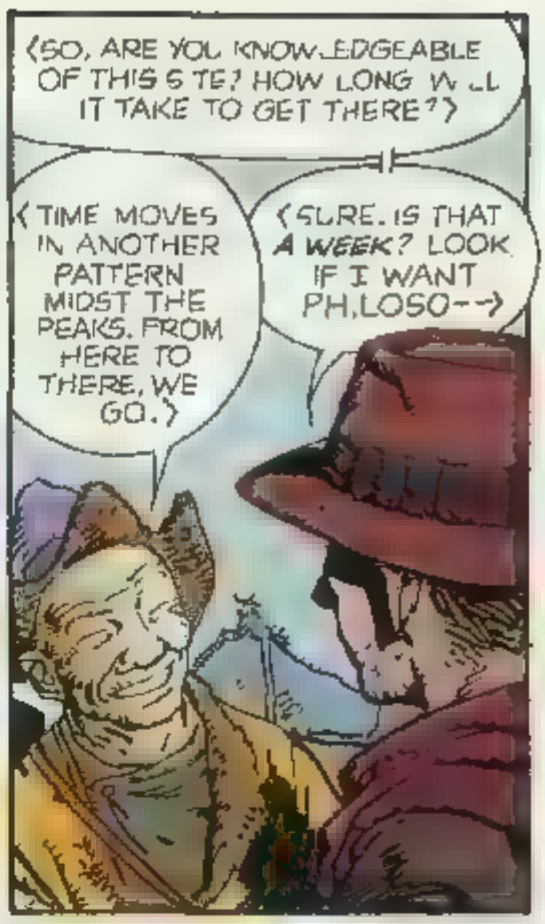
PERFECT! I'LL BET THAT COMRADE MAJOR LEGS IS BEHIND THE NEXT TREE..
BLAM! BLAMM!
I CAN'T CUT ACROSS COUNTRY--THE STONE WALLS GO EVERY WHICH WAY--DAMN.
YES!
POW! POW!
KA-CHING!
JAISUS! IT'S THA COPPERS! AND ME WITH A FULL LOAD OF BREW!
RRAAAA!
RRAAAA!
HEY, THANK YOU, DRIVER!

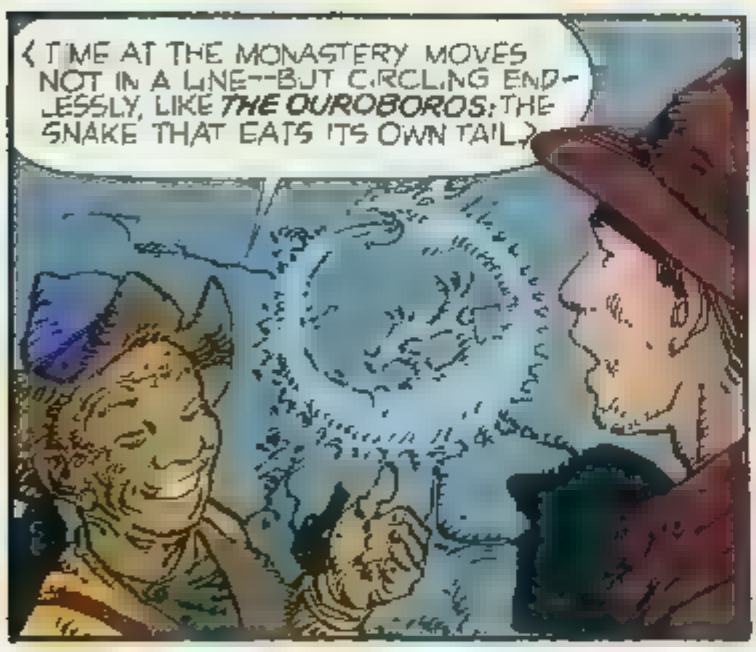
SKKEE!
KRASH!
WHACK!
KHISK!
KHISK!
KA-PING!
BLAM!
BLAMM!
WHAWG!
TOK
UUNH !
AMAZING.
WELL, COSTELLO, YOU KEPT FAITH WITH YOUR PAL O'LEARY...

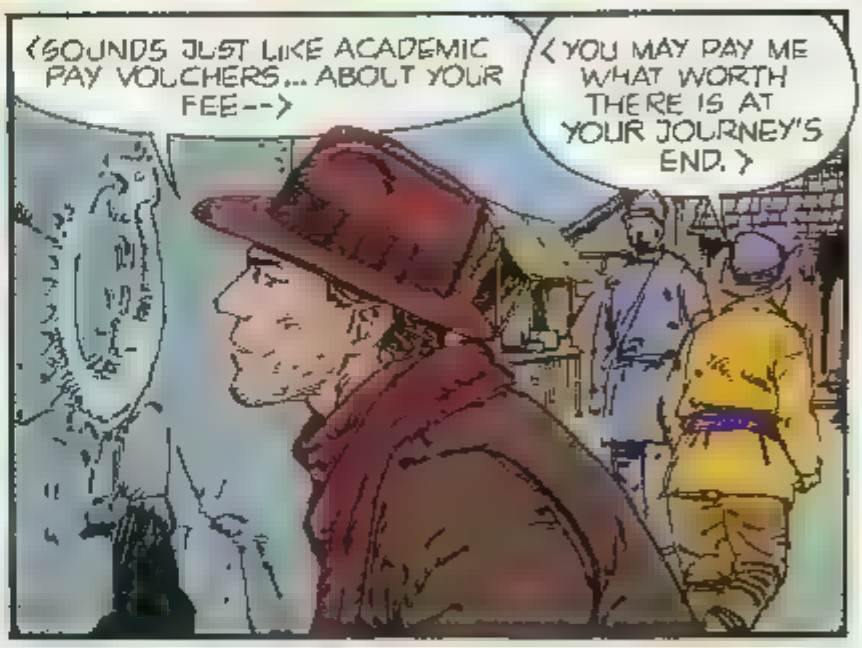
MANY LONG MILES LATER
HELLO? HELLO?
BRODY? YES, SPEAK LOUDER-- ROTTEN CONNECTION YOU'VE CALLED ME BACK ON THE SECURE LINE, RIGHT LIKE I SAID IN MY TELEGRAM ...UH.. THESE ITEMS... ARE DYNAMITE
YEAH, AND NADIA AND HER CREW SHOWED UP IN KIEV! HOW SHE FOUND OUT I... ONLY TOLD WHOM? WHAT COUSIN?!! YOU'RE A REAL PAL BRODY! DID YOU TELL DUNKELVOLK, TOO? YES, YES, IN DELIGHTFUL IRELAND!
I'LL TELL YOU LATER. WHAT? WHAT ABOUT HIS BOSS? "DR." MATTHIAS JAGER? NO, I NEVER... "THE MONSTER OF MINSK" EXPERIMENTS IN... WHAT? REANIMATING DEAD TISSUE? GOOD GRIEF. WHAT DID... ARMIES OF ZOMBIES?
WELL, WE NOW KNOW WHY HE'D WANT THESE... ITEMS. I MUST GET THE THIRD. THESE NAZI LEFTOVERS MIGHT PULL... WHAT? LOUDER!
CAN'T BE SURE, BRODY. SO FAR I'VE RUN ACROSS PEOPLE TURNED TO GOLD, PEOPLE TURNED INTO TREES. TREES! NEVER MIND. LOOK, TRY TO KEEP YOUR OWN COUNSEL, OLD BOY. YOUR BLABBER MOUTH HAS... HELLO? HELLO? DAMN.
HMN, BAD CONNECTION. I THINK I CAN ESTIMATE THE CHARGES...
NO! ER... NO, GOOD SIR--OUR PLEASURE. YOU MUST BE IN A HURRY.
OH, MOST GENEROUS OF YOU. THANKS VERY MUCH.

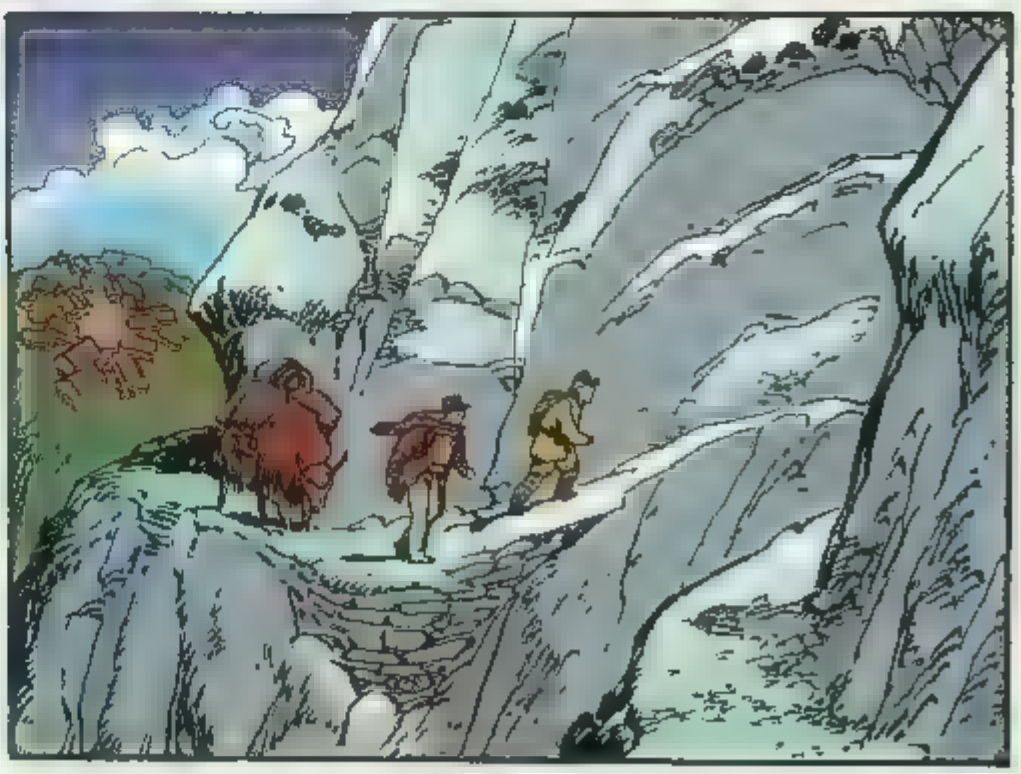
HIGH AT THE TOP OF THE WORLD--TIBET
(JH...TO THE MONASTERY OF THE BUTTER-FLIES.)HEY!
HO!
(NO, REALLY. I'LL THROW IN ANOTHER PACK PONY!)
DAMN. FOR TWO DAYS I'VE HIT UP EVERY SHERPA GUIDE TWICE. WHAT IS THIS?


HUH. 〈GRANDPA, I SEEK THE *MONASTERY OF THE BUTTERFLIES*. ARE YOU FREE? CAN *YOU* GUIDE ME THERE?〉
〈WE ARE ALL BUT CAPTIVES OF OUR OWN CIRCLES, TALL ONE. BUT ONE CAN AID ANOTHER IN SEARCH.〉
〈IS THAT *YES*?〉


〈SO, ARE YOU KNOWLEDGEABLE OF THIS SITE? HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO GET THERE?〉
〈TIME MOVES IN ANOTHER PATTERN MIDST THE PEAKS. FROM HERE TO THERE, WE GO.〉
〈SURE. IS THAT *A WEEK*? LOOK IF I WANT PHILOSO--〉







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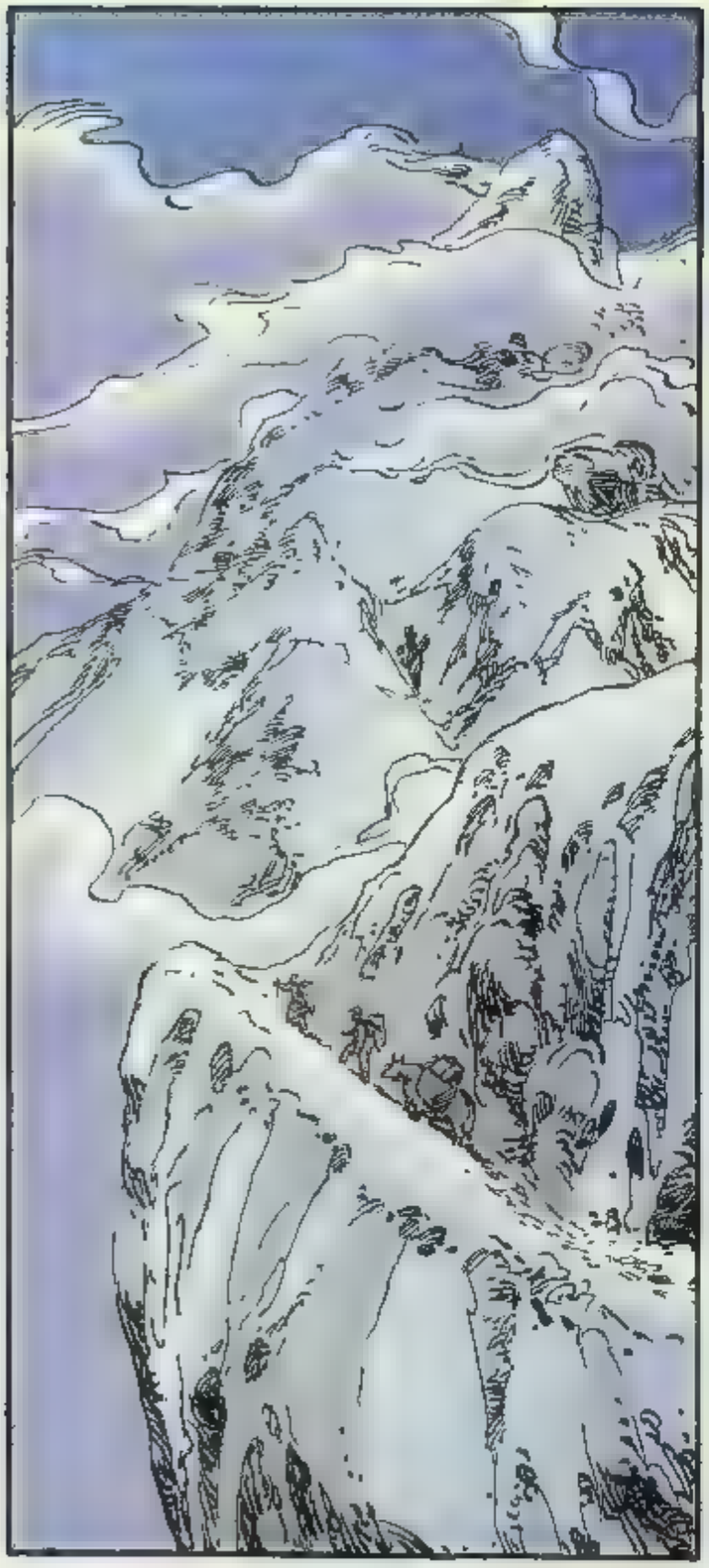
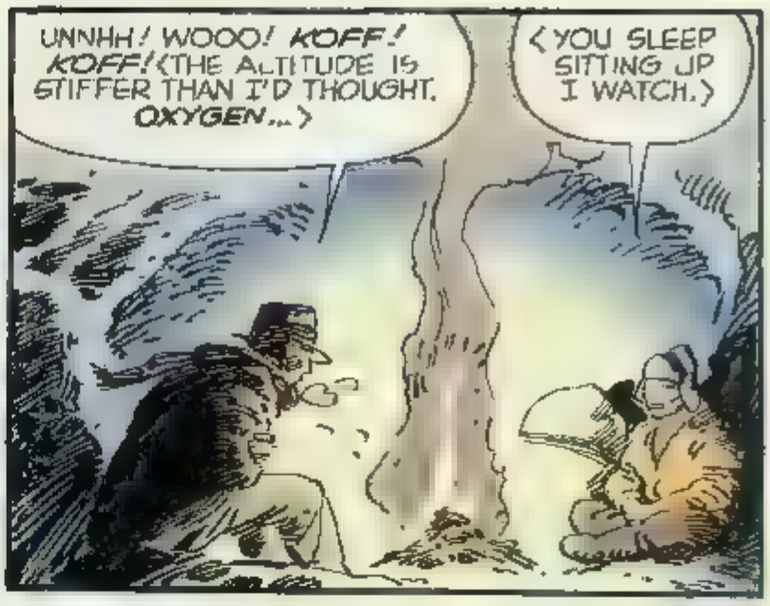
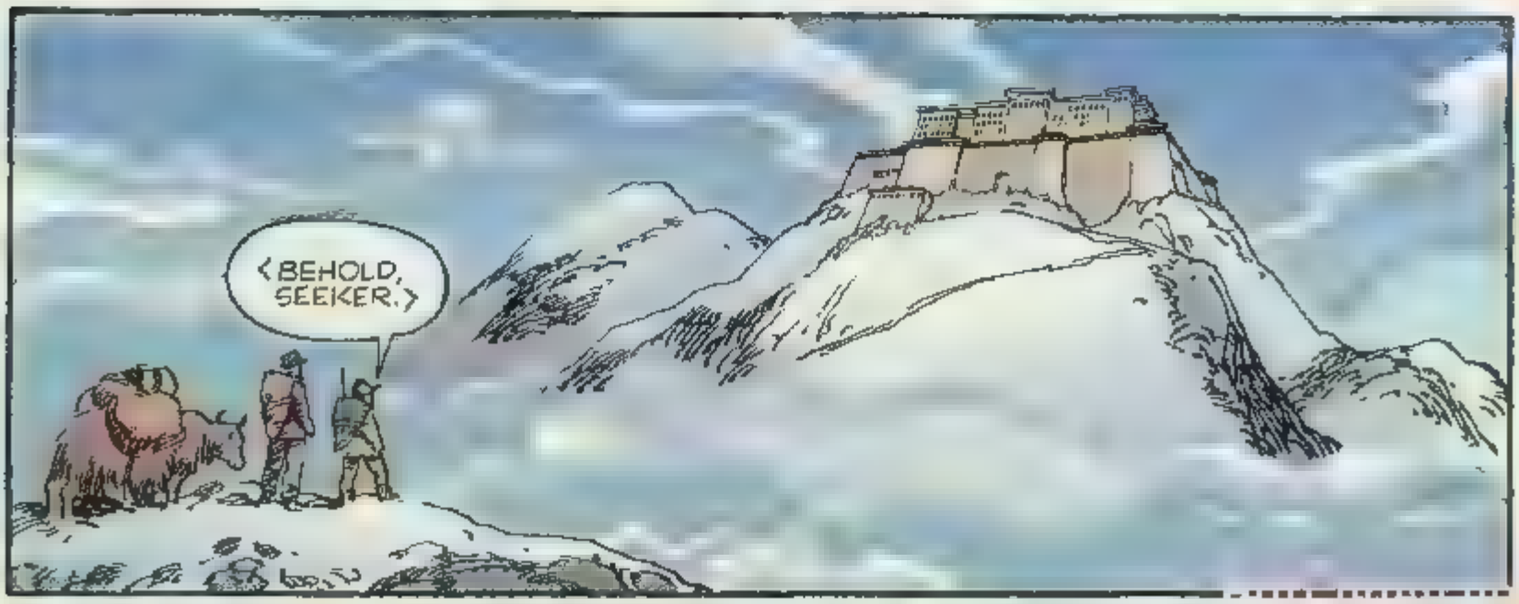
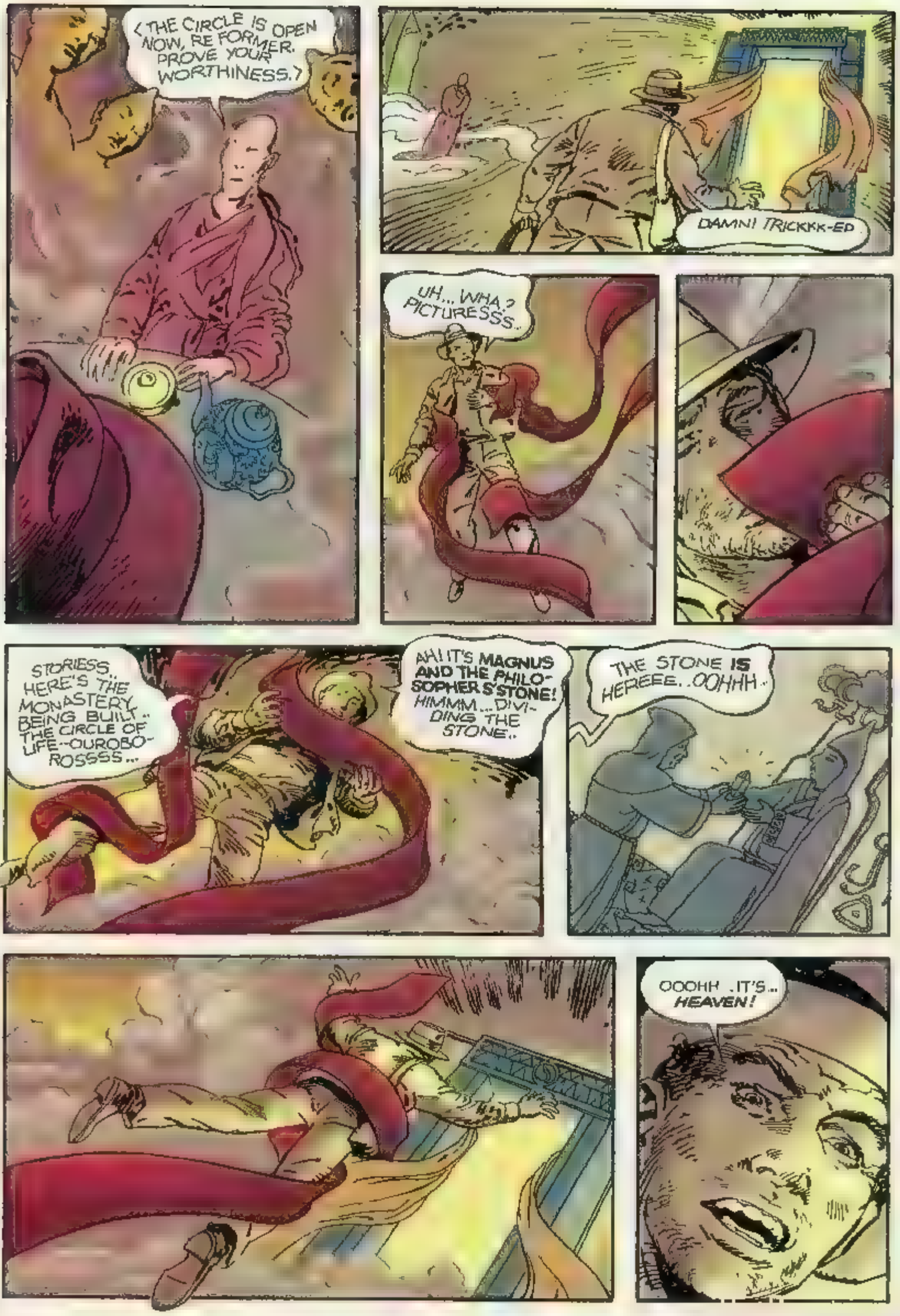


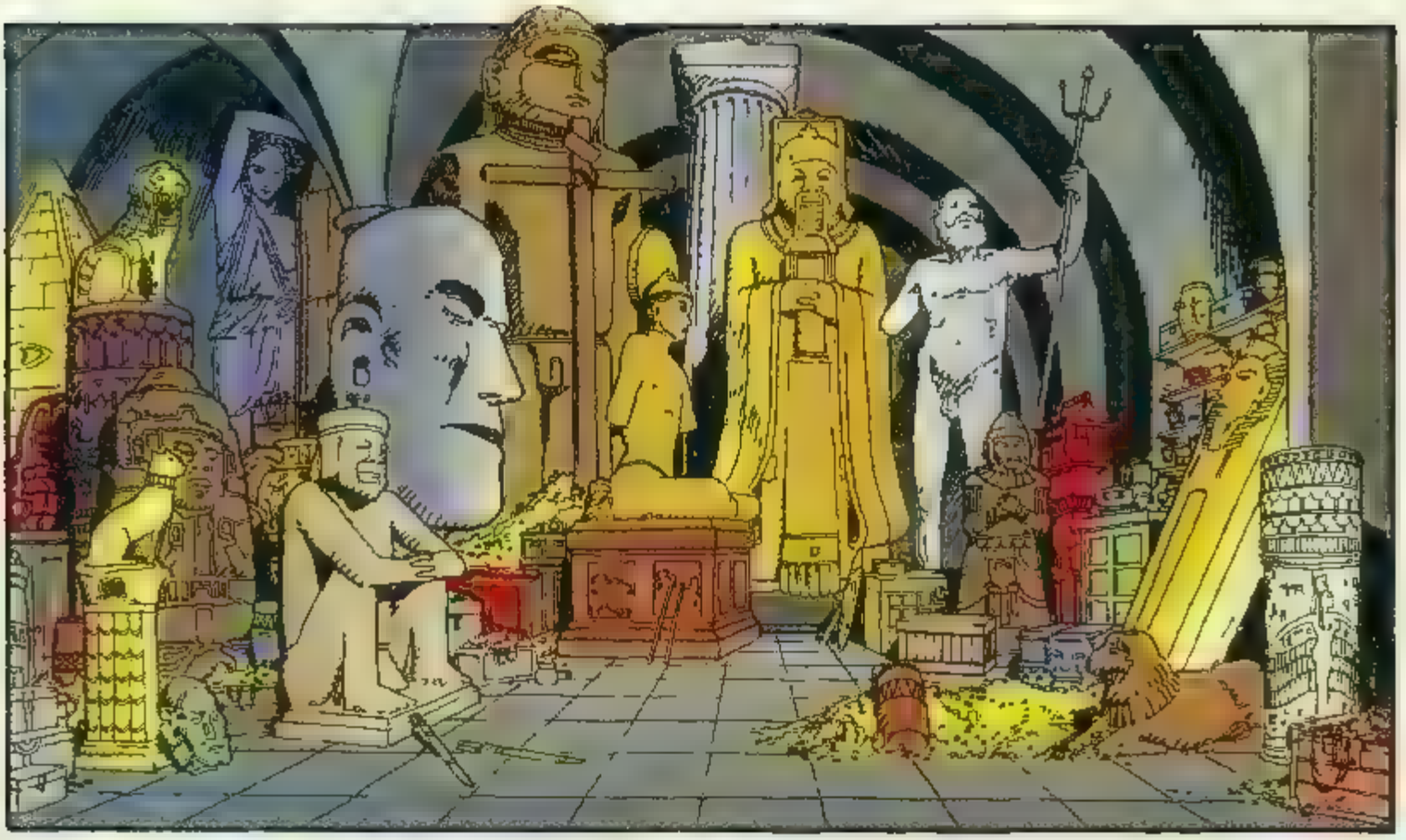

UNNHH! WOOO! KOFF! KOFF! (THE ALTITUDE IS STIFFER THAN I'D THOUGHT. OXYGEN...)
(YOU SLEEP SITTING UP I WATCH.)

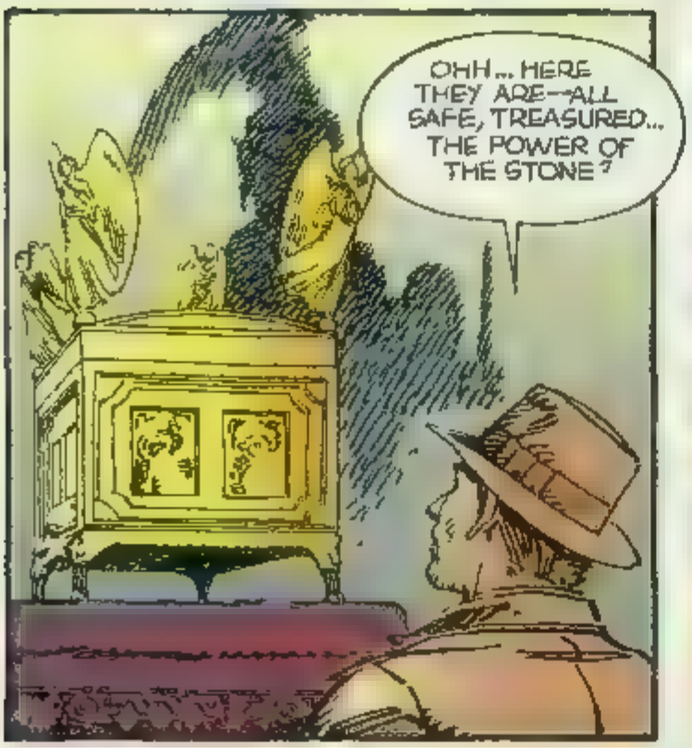
DAYS LATER
(THIS THIN AIR .. HAVEN'T WE BEEN BY HERE BEFORE?)
(SOON, TALL ONE.)


(BEHOLD, SEEKER.)

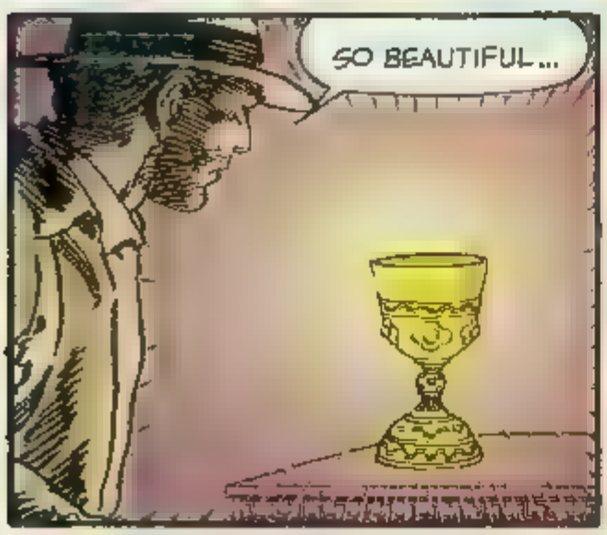
〈TALL ONE! I WILL CAMP HERE!〉
〈ZHABA, YOU CAN'T -- HUH?〉
〈GREETINGS, TRAVELER. WELCOME TO OUR SACRED SPOT.〉
WHUH?! OH, UH. 〈THANK YOU, KIND HOST.〉
〈YOU MUST BE THIRSTY, FAR TRAVELER COME TAKE TEA〉
〈NO, THANK YOU. I--〉
〈ER... WELL, SURE〉
〈ALL VISITORS PARTAKE OF THE TEA CEREMONY.〉
〈ANOTHER CUP, SIR?〉
〈NO THIS IS.. HMM ... IZZ...〉


(THE CIRCLE IS OPEN NOW, RE FORMER. PROVE YOUR WORTHINESS.)
DAMN! TRICKKK-ED
UH... WHA? PICTURESSS..
STORIESS.. HERE'S THE MONASTERY BEING BUILT.. THE CIRCLE OF LIFE--OUROBO-ROSSSS...
AH! IT'S MAGNUS AND THE PHILO-SOPHER S'STONE! HIMMM... DIVI-DING THE STONE..
THE STONE IS HEREEE..OOHHH..
OOOHH .IT'S.. HEAVEN!




OHH... HERE THEY ARE—ALL SAFE, TREASURED... THE POWER OF THE STONE?

AH! THE GRAIL!!


SO BEAUTIFUL...

AT LAST...

NO! WAIT... THE STONE... THESE CAN'T BE..
MUST STAY FOCUSED...
UNHH!
WHA? ME? WAT...
UHH... TWO PATHS? WHAT IS THIS.. PHOENIX?
PUZZLES-- MUMBO JUMBO-- DAMN IT! I'VE

. GOT TO LOCATE-- HEY! ANY-BODY!

OWW!

WHANG!

UH-OHHH

SWOOSH

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YOU WILL BE
ENERGIZED,
YOU WILL BE
FRIGHTENED,
YOU WILL GET
ANGRY...
AND YOU WILL BE
ENLIGHTENED.

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SIXTEEN CREATORS WITH ONE
LOUD MESSAGE.

COMIN' AT YOU IN MARCH.

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NEXUS
OUT OF THE VORTEX
A Five-Issue Series That Will Shake The Galaxy!
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★ Art by Joe Comstock and Brian Kane
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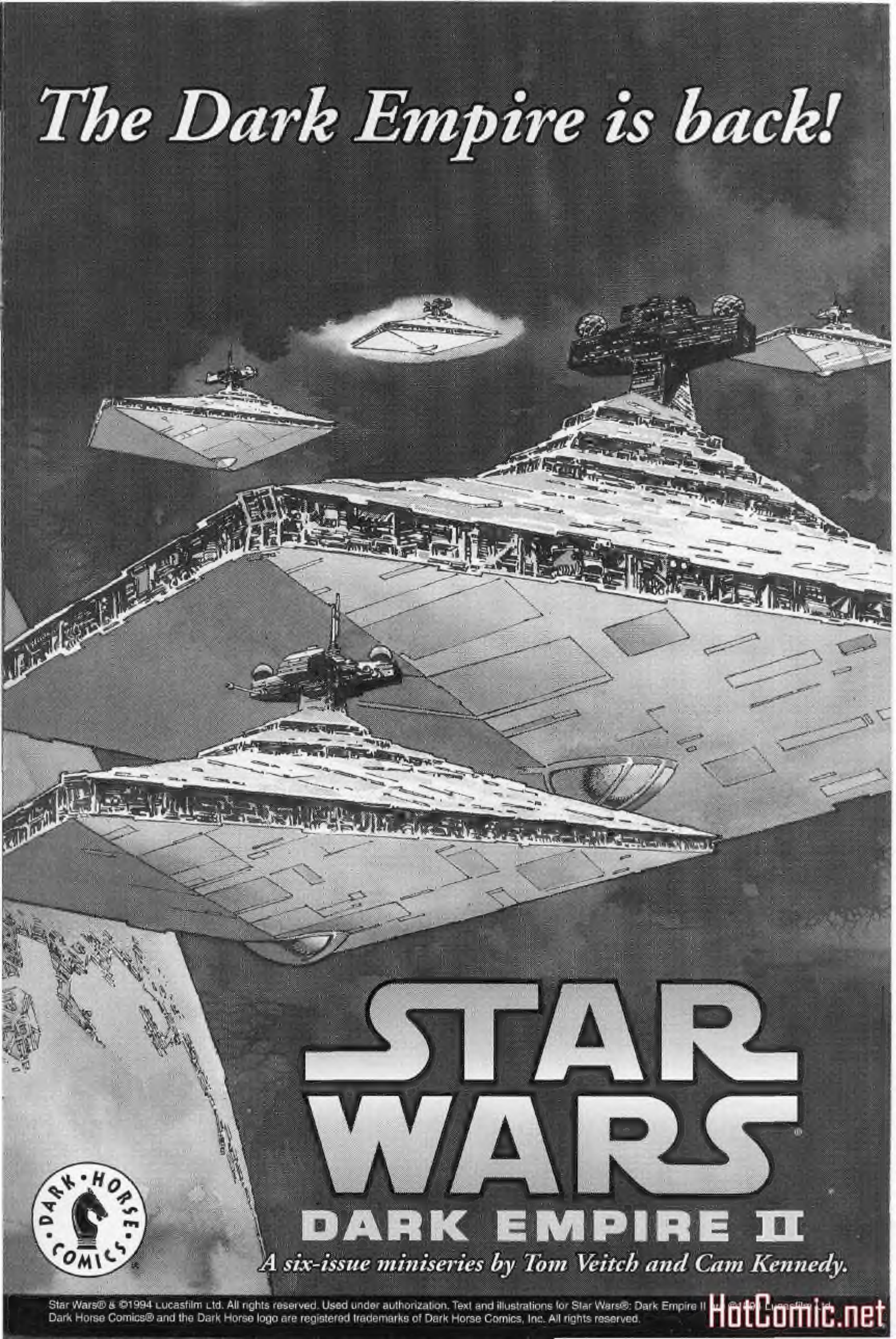

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